## MINUTES OF MEETING

State Board of Education February 7, 2007

The February meeting of the State Board of Education was held in the State Board Room, Grimes State Office Building, Des Moines. The following Board members were present: Gene Vincent, Rosie Hussey, Jackie Dout, Charles Edwards, Sister Jude Fitzpatrick, Brian Gentry, John Jessen, Wayne Kobberdahl, Mary Jean Montgomery, and Max Phillips. Director Judy Jeffrey and Department staff Gail Sullivan, Pam Pfitzenmaier, Elaine Watkins-Miller, Janice Friedel, Del Hoover, Steve Crew, Debbie Boring, Arlie Willems, Susan Fischer, Lana Michelson, Dee Ann Wilson, Jeremy Varner, Chris Evans, Shawn Limback, Roger Foelske, Dee Gethmann, Penny Milburn, LauraBelle Sherman-Proehl, Judith Knox, and Beverlee Adams were also present. Others present were: Todd Abrahamson, Sigourney Community School District; Jim Lindenmayer, Indian Hills Community College; Marvin Pomerantz, Robert Koob, and Jodie Butler, Institute for Tomorrow's Workforce; Diana Gonzalez and Mary Ellen Becker, Board of Regents; Dan Vogeler, Jo Ann Christofferson, Victoria Benz, and Eileen Heck, Columbus Community School District; Becky Shermis, Michele Snipe, Lynn Massenzio and Dwight Carlson (telephonically), Kaplan University; Jackie Wilcox, University of Dubuque; Dave Palmer, Iowa Association of Community College Trustees; and Cindy Schulte, Iowa Valley Community College District; Jan Kees, 2007 Ambassador for Education; Lynn Campbell, Des Moines Register; and Amber Bryant-Tapper, Cedar Rapids Gazette.

## STATE BOARD WORK SESSION: Institute for Tomorrow's Workforce Discussion

Marvin Pomerantz, Co-Chair, Robert Koob, Co-Chair and Jodie Butler, Executive Director, Institute for Tomorrow's Workforce, discussed the Institute's recommendations with the State Board of Education. They provided a summary of policy recommendations included in a report titled "Quality Education for All."

### STATE BOARD BUSINESS MEETING

President Vincent called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Wayne Kobberdahl moved approval of the agenda as presented. Rosie Hussey seconded.

### COMMUNICATION

### **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

## **Director Report**

Director Jeffrey introduced the 2007 Ambassador for Education, Jan Kees from Ankeny. She also introduced Elaine Watkins-Miller, our new Communications Consultant for the Department.

Jeffrey reported that the Teacher Shortage Task Force would be meeting on February 13. A data packet that has been collected for this Task Force will also be sent to State Board members.

Judy Jeffrey provided information on the recently released President's budget and its impact on education.

Jeffrey applauded Administrator Pam Pfitzenmaier's appointment to the Council of Chief State School Officers National High School Center Advisory Committee.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

### **Minutes**

The minutes of the December 11, 2006 State Board of Education meeting were approved.

The November 2005 State Board of Education minutes were amended and approved to read as proposed.

## **Religious Groups Exemption**

Approval was granted to 45 religious group exemption requests as presented.

### Rules

281, Iowa Administrative Code, Chapter 120, "Early ACCESS Integrated System of Early Intervention" was approved for adoption.

### **Appeal Decisions**

Appeal Decision, In re Ashley Garvin, 24 D.o.E. App. Dec. 168 to affirm the decision of the Harlan Community School District, Appellee vs Louise Wood, Appellant, to expel the student was approved as proposed.

Appeal Decision, In re Colton L., 24 D.o.E. App. Dec. 177 to affirm the decision of Troy and Karen L., Appellants, vs. Cedar Rapids Community School District, Appellee, to expel the student was approved as proposed.

## Rules: Chapter 34—Funding for Children Residing in State Institutions or Mental Health Institutes

Steve Crew. Consultant, Chapter 34 Institutions, provided an overview of the Chapter 34 rule amendments. He indicated the primary purpose of the changes proposed is to give secondary students in a mental health institute or at the Eldora Training School or the Toledo Juvenile Home the ability to take dual credit courses at the State's expense. Crew said that minor changes include amending dates and deadlines to conform to recent legislation.

**Motion:** It was moved by Mary Jean Montgomery and seconded by Rosie Hussey to approve the Chapter 34, Funding for Children Residing in State Institutions or Mental Health Institutes, amendments for notice of intended action.

**Vote:** The motion carried unanimously.

## **Practitioner Preparation Program – University of Dubuque**

Arlie Willems, Administrative Consultant, Practitioner Preparation, reviewed the results of the team report for the University of Dubuque practitioner preparation program. She introduced Jackie Wilcox in attendance from the University of Dubuque. The site visit occurred in October, 2006. Willems indicated that team members reviewed documents and interviewed faculty, staff, administrators, students and practitioners affiliated with the University of Dubuque program. The team examined six standard areas: Governance and Resources, Diversity, Faculty Performance and Development, Clinical Practice, Assessment of Candidate Knowledge, and Assessment of the Program.

It was noted that interactions as well as feedback from constituent groups indicated that University of Dubuque teacher education candidates possessed strong positive teaching-related dispositions, personally and professionally. Ms. Willems said that as a group, these candidates appear to understand what teaching is and what a teacher should be—and they strive to be good teachers. The team was impressed with the degree of positive change that has occurred within the University and the Education Program in recent years. Willems recommended the University of Dubuque practitioner preparation program for approval.

Following a discussion of the strengths and weaknesses regarding this program the following action was taken:

**Motion:** It was moved by Sister Jude Fitzpatrick and seconded by Wayne Kobberdahl to approve the University of Dubuque practitioner preparation program through the next state visit cycle scheduled for the 2011-2012 academic year.

**Vote:** The motion carried unanimously.

# Teacher Intern Program and Master of Education Program – Kaplan University

Administrative Consultant Arlie Willems, Practitioner Preparation, reported that this review addresses both the Teacher Intern Program, conditionally approved under Chapter 77 of Iowa Administrative Code, as well as the Masters of Education (M.Ed.) Program, conditionally approved under Iowa Administrative Code Chapter 79. Although presented as two separate programs, Willems said the overlap between the programs is considerable. Currently candidates completing teacher internships are also completing the M.Ed.

Staff in attendance from Kaplan University were: Becky Shermis, Michele Snipe, Lynn Massenzio and Dwight Carlson (telephonically).

Ms. Willems said that initially, the two Kaplan programs were conditionally approved on the understanding that the Teacher Intern Program would be limited to lowa while the M.Ed. would eventually be offered nationally. Since that time, legal counsel has determined that the Teacher Intern Program can, in fact, be offered nationally if all lowa requirements are met. Arlie Willems indicated that this decision makes it more likely that future candidates in the Intern Program will complete the M.Ed. as well. In light of the interwoven nature of the two programs, the review addresses them concurrently. The major difference between the two, the year internship versus student teaching, is addressed specifically.

Willems reported that in interviewing teacher interns, their mentors, and administrators, the team was convinced that the KaplanTeacher Intern Program is successfully meeting a need in the state of Iowa and is poised to meet a need nationally. As a result of these interviews and appraisals of the materials submitted, both during this review and the 2005 review, the team is assured that Kaplan is providing and intends to continue to provide quality programming consistent with Iowa standards.

Ms. Willems reported that during the initial review, all six standards were met on a conditional basis. During the follow-up visit, aspects of five of the six standards were addressed; the diversity standard stood as initially approved. Ms. Willems recommended that Kaplan University's Teacher Intern and Master of Education programs be fully approved through the next state visit cycle scheduled for the 2011-2012 academic year.

**Motion:** It was moved by Max Phillips and seconded by Wayne Kobberdahl to grant full approval to Kaplan University's Teacher Intern and Master of Education programs through the next state visit cycle scheduled for the 2011-2012 academic year. An interim visit will be made at the time that candidates are completing internships/student teaching in locations outside the State of Iowa.

**Vote:** The motion carried unanimously.

# **Iowa Public Charter Schools: Sigourney Community School District Application**

Del Hoover, Deputy Division Administrator, Division of PK-12 Education; Todd Abrahamson, Sigourney Community School District Superintendent; and Dr. Jim Lindenmayer, President, Indian Hills Community College, were present for discussion of this agenda item.

In 2002 the Legislature enacted a limited public charter schools law. Mr. Hoover said the Department of Education has received Public Charter School funding from the U.S. Department of Education for up to \$400,000 per school for a 36-month period. Mr. Hoover said that Sigourney Community School District is seeking approval for Charter School eSigourney Entrepreneurial Academy for Leadership (eSEAL). Mr. Abrahamson said the local school board has approved the charter school application, as have the teachers and parents of students impacted by the charter school application. He reviewed the mission and goals of this proposed charter school and discussed the community support. The applicant has completed the five-step process required for approval.

Dr. Lindenmayer, Indian Hills Community College, discussed the partnership this would provide for the community in preparing students to develop a

business or e-business that will produce a marketable product or service to the community and beyond.

Hoover recommended the Sigourney Community School District charter school for approval.

Superintendent Abrahamson and President Lindenmayer responded to questions from the Board about the programs being offered and the rigor and relevance of the programs.

**Motion:** It was moved by Mary Jean Montgomery and seconded by Rosie Hussey to approve the charter school application for Sigourney Community School District. The charter school will be named eSEAL – eSigourney Entrepreneurial Academy for Leadership.

**Vote:** The motion carried unanimously.

# Comprehensive Study of Hearing Services – Request to Create a Coordinating Council

State Board Member, Sister Jude Fitzpatrick and Lana Michelson, Chief, Bureau of Children, Family & Community Services provided information about this agenda item. Sister Jude introduced Mary Ellen Becker and Diana Gonzalez, Board of Regents who were in attendance.

Sister Jude stated that the Board of Regents and State Board of Education had jointly created a coordinating council to study the needs of students who are blind or visually impaired to determine how services could be provided in the most effective and efficient manner. The report and recommendations have been released.

Fitzpatrick indicated that the proposal before the Board was to create a coordinating council to review services that support the education of deaf and hard-of-hearing students, and to make recommendations designed to coordinate services across the state.

**Motion:** It was moved by Mary Jean Montgomery and seconded by Charlie Edwards to approve the request to support creation of a coordinating council with the State Board of Regents to conduct a comprehensive study of hearing services in the state.

**Vote:** The motion carried unanimously.

President Vincent appointed Sister Jude Fitzpatrick to be the representative from the State Board of Education to serve on the council.

# 2006 Condition of Iowa Community Colleges and Workforce Preparation Report

Administrator Janice Friedel, and Consultants, Chris Evans, Shawn Limback, and Jeremy Varner were present for this discussion. Friedel said that the 15 lowa community colleges offer thousands of credit and non-credit courses. The 2006 Condition of Iowa Community Colleges and Workforce Preparation Report reviews Iowa community college programs and related services. She indicated this report is supported by Management Information Services (MIS) data, as reported by Iowa community colleges to the Iowa Department of Education, Bureau of Community Colleges and Career and Technical Education, and additional references identified in the body of the report. Data are based on FY 2003, FY 2004, FY 2005 and FY 2006.

The four components of the community college Management Information System (MIS) were first implemented in FY 1999. The purpose of the Condition of the Community Colleges Report is to summarize trends in community college enrollments, finances, and personnel. Janice Friedel said that the report provides comparative data on FY 2002 to FY 2006. Dr. Friedel also acknowledged Tom Grimm's work on this project.

## Freshman Admission Requirements to Iowa Regent Universities

Diana Gonzalez, Policy and Operations Officer at the Board of Regents office and Mary Ellen Becker, Regent, presented information on the freshman admission requirements.

The Board of Regents established a study team to review the criteria for admitting students to the Regent institutions. This Admissions Study Team sought input from a number of experts and educators including the State Board President and Department of Education Director.

Ms. Gonzalez reported that as a result of the study, the Board of Regents had adopted a new set of freshman requirements to Iowa Regent Universities. The new Regent Admission Index factors in a combination of ACT composite score, high school rank, high school grade point average, and number of core subject area courses completed in high school. These factors have been found to predict academic success at the Regent universities and are consistent with the State Board and Department of Education priority encouraging students to take a rigorous curriculum throughout their high school careers.

Mary Ellen Becker stated that the admission of freshman applicants to the Iowa Regent Universities is based on a Regent Admission Index which combines four factors: ACT composite score, high school rank, high school

grade point average, and number of high school courses completed in the core subject areas.

Becker noted that a Regent Admission Index (RAI) would be calculated for each freshman applicant using the following equation:

RAI= (2 x ACT composite score) + (1 x high school rank +20 x high school grade point average) + (5 x number of high school courses completed in the core subject areas)

The Regent universities recognize that the traditional measures of academic performance do not adequately describe some students' potential for success. Therefore, the Regent universities strongly encourage all interested students to apply for admission. Gonzalez said that applicants who feel their academic record is not an accurate reflection of their potential for success are encouraged to provide supplemental information explaining their circumstances in addition to the application, academic transcripts, and test scores.

Board members discussed the factors involved in the new admission index and how it would affect students applying to the state universities. There were also questions on changes that may need to be made in high school preparation for the new admission index.

### **Perkins IV Overview**

Janice Friedel, Administrator, Roger Foelske, Administrative Consultant, and Chris Evans, Consultant, Community Colleges and Workforce Preparation provided information for the Perkins IV overview.

Congress showed its support for career and technical education programs by its reauthorization of the 2006 Perkins Act. Friedel indicated the Perkins funds are critical to the continued provision of high school and postsecondary career and technical programs in lowa. She explained the purposes of the Act and the major issues. States must continue to match state administration on a dollar-for-dollar basis.

Dr. Friedel discussed the programs of study and the increased accountability of the Perkins IV Act. Chris Evans talked about the local plans and the requirement for local use of funding.

The transition timeline of April 16, 2007 is the date for plan submission reported Dr. Friedel and a five-year plan will need to be submitted in April, 2008. Implementation of the plan will begin July 1, 2007.

Funding provisions and federal/state matching dollars under the 2006 reauthorization were discussed.

### Providing a Quality Preschool Program—One District's Story

Dee Gethmann, Bureau of Children, Family & Community Services introduced the following presenters from Columbus Community School District who would share information regarding their successful preschool story: Dan Vogeler, Principal; Jo Ann Christofferson, Consultant; Victoria Benz, Pre-Kindergarten Teacher; and Eileen Heck, Pre-Kindergarten Teacher.

Principal Vogeler said the Columbus Preschool at Roundy Elementary in rural Columbus Junction is a high quality preschool program currently serving sixty-five students. What started out as one classroom in the Columbus School District sixteen years ago has grown into four classrooms. Of the four classrooms for 3, 4, and 5-year-olds, three of them are full inclusion rooms.

In the review of the program, Ms. Christofferson offered the following eight key components they used: 1) Support of policy makers; 2) Funding; 3) Highly qualified teachers; 4) Learning environment; 5) Learning and instructional framework; 6) Professional Development; 7) Family involvement; and 8) Transition to kindergarten. An outline was shared that explained the highlights of implementation for the key components.

Teachers Benz and Heck shared information on how the professional development increased the quality of communication in the program. They also reported on home visit experiences and working with parents on parent education classes. A new program had just begun with use of funds from an lowa Public Television grant.

Mr. Vogeler indicated the Columbus preschool program has exemplified high quality in serving its students and continues to grow and have positive support in the community.

There was discussion about the impact the program has had on private providers and assurances that Louisa County has excellent community collaboration supporting all preschools. It was noted that Spanish-speaking teachers were a part of the program providing support to children and families.

## **Board Reports**

Max Phillips - No report

Jackie Dout - No report

<u>Wayne Kobberdahl</u> indicated that the Healthy Children's Task Force work was completed in January and recommendations were provided to the legislature.

Rosie Hussey attended the North Iowa Area Community College meeting held with area superintendents. This meeting provides information about their partnerships and the work being done. She shared a handout from that meeting about summer camps for kids, etc.

Sister Jude Fitzpatrick - No report

Brian Gentry - No report

<u>Mary Jean Montgomery</u> discussed Iowa Public Television's survey on how teachers use public television and the methods of receiving public television in the classroom. She said the survey indicated that access continues to be a problem.

<u>John Jessen</u> – No report

<u>Gene Vincent</u> stated that a subcommittee of the Board met to discuss the request to change the name of the State Board Room. The committee felt that many positive individuals have served on the Board over the years and that the official name of the room should remain as the State Board Room.

**Motion:** It was moved by Mary Jean Montgomery and seconded by Sister Jude Fitzpatrick to accept the recommendation of the Committee to maintain the official name of the board room as the State Board Room.

**Vote:** The motion carried unanimously.

Vincent reported that the Iowa Learning Technology Committee met and selected grant recipients to receive the \$450,000 available to school districts.

Max Phillips felt the Board should follow-up with Governor Culver's interest in exploring and gathering information on the "Green" school effort. He offered several suggestions on how efforts could be generated to capitalize on these opportunities. Director Jeffrey also suggested a discussion with the Department on information and programs currently in place or moving in the direction of these ideas.

Director Jeffrey noted that Governor Culver had recognized and honored the FFA with a proclamation.

President Gene Vincent adjourned the meeting at 3:00 p.m.

Gene E. Vincent	Judy A. Jeffrey, Director and
President	Executive Officer